



Susan Zavaglia, David Peat, Melanie Young, Paul Brumfield, and Jill Hendrickson get cozy at the senior lock-in!

Stephanie Michael and Jen Weeks enjoy the special treat from the 9 — Oh's during exams!



Susan Helms shows that studying is a big part of the day!

Seniors . . .

The Joys of Early Dismissal

Senior year means a lot of things to a lot of people. End of exams . . . graduation . . . college plans . . . *early dismissal!* What could be better than leaving school at approximately the same time some of us actually wake up on weekends?

The term "early dismissal" doesn't imply five minutes, 10 minutes, or even 20 minutes. A full 50 minutes — or one period — is eliminated from some seniors' days. Ending the school day at 1:25 leaves a good part of the afternoon to be spent any way desired. So just what exactly is done the rest of the day?

Most seniors admit that they go home to sleep (for at least 3 or 4 hours!), watch the soaps (can't miss *Days of Our Lives!*), or do homework (Who are they kidding?). Others have afterschool jobs (need that \$\$!), or simply go out with their friends (to eat — no doubt!). Whatever is done with that extra bit of time is up to each individual senior.

Asked how this extra time is typically spent, senior Steve Gaertner replied immediately, "Sleep!" But while he may enjoy relaxing, others, like Mike Newton, work hard at afterschool jobs. When asked why, he replied jokingly (I think!), "I'm try-

ing to build up seniority as a dishwasher 'cuz it's a promising career. Imagine me, Mike Newton, washing dishes at the White House!" Okay, sure!

On the other hand, many senior girls (and guys) use their extra time to rush home and catch a wedding, murder, or kidnapping. That is, of course, on their favorite soap opera!

"I never miss *Santa Barbara* because I'm addicted to it!" and "*Guiding Light* forever!" were seniors Kristin Kailian's and David Peat's respective replies as devoted soap fans.

Yet, others use the additional time to shop or run errands. Senior Jamie Saliman can't believe that ". . . in a period of only 50 minutes, I can accomplish so much!"

But no matter which way the extra time is spent, whether sleeping, working, shopping, watching soaps, or just doing whatever comes to mind, the seniors who enjoy this special privilege treasure it. To sum up early dismissal, senior Jill Hendrickson simply replied: "I don't know how I ever survived a seven period day! It seems like I have a lot of spare time to enjoy senior year!" Spoken like a true senior!

By: Jennifer Tolchinsky